

1 AN ACT concerning child welfare.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 5 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/5) (from Ch. 23, par. 5005)

7 Sec. 5. Direct child welfare services; Department of  
8 Children and Family Services. To provide direct child  
9 welfare services when not available through other public or  
10 private child care or program facilities.

11 (a) For purposes of this Section:

12 (1) "Children" means persons found within the State  
13 who are under the age of 18 years. The term also  
14 includes persons under age 19 who:

15 (A) were committed to the Department pursuant  
16 to the Juvenile Court Act or the Juvenile Court Act  
17 of 1987, as amended, prior to the age of 18 and who  
18 continue under the jurisdiction of the court; or

19 (B) were accepted for care, service and  
20 training by the Department prior to the age of 18  
21 and whose best interest in the discretion of the  
22 Department would be served by continuing that care,  
23 service and training because of severe emotional  
24 disturbances, physical disability, social adjustment  
25 or any combination thereof, or because of the need  
26 to complete an educational or vocational training  
27 program.

28 (2) "Homeless youth" means persons found within the  
29 State who are under the age of 19, are not in a safe and  
30 stable living situation and cannot be reunited with their  
31 families.

1           (3) "Child welfare services" means public social  
2 services which are directed toward the accomplishment of  
3 the following purposes:

4           (A) protecting and promoting the health,  
5 safety and welfare of children, including homeless,  
6 dependent or neglected children;

7           (B) remedying, or assisting in the solution of  
8 problems which may result in, the neglect, abuse,  
9 exploitation or delinquency of children;

10          (C) preventing the unnecessary separation of  
11 children from their families by identifying family  
12 problems, assisting families in resolving their  
13 problems, and preventing the breakup of the family  
14 where the prevention of child removal is desirable  
15 and possible when the child can be cared for at home  
16 without endangering the child's health and safety;

17          (D) restoring to their families children who  
18 have been removed, by the provision of services to  
19 the child and the families when the child can be  
20 cared for at home without endangering the child's  
21 health and safety;

22          (E) placing children in suitable adoptive  
23 homes, in cases where restoration to the biological  
24 family is not safe, possible or appropriate;

25          (F) assuring safe and adequate care of  
26 children away from their homes, in cases where the  
27 child cannot be returned home or cannot be placed  
28 for adoption. At the time of placement, the  
29 Department shall consider concurrent planning, as  
30 described in subsection (1-1) of this Section so  
31 that permanency may occur at the earliest  
32 opportunity. Consideration should be given so that  
33 if reunification fails or is delayed, the placement  
34 made is the best available placement to provide

1 permanency for the child;

2 (G) (blank);

3 (H) (blank); and

4 (I) placing and maintaining children in  
5 facilities that provide separate living quarters for  
6 children under the age of 18 and for children 18  
7 years of age and older, unless a child 18 years of  
8 age is in the last year of high school education or  
9 vocational training, in an approved individual or  
10 group treatment program, in a licensed shelter  
11 facility, or secure child care facility. The  
12 Department is not required to place or maintain  
13 children:

14 (i) who are in a foster home, or

15 (ii) who are persons with a developmental  
16 disability, as defined in the Mental Health and  
17 Developmental Disabilities Code, or

18 (iii) who are female children who are  
19 pregnant, pregnant and parenting or parenting,  
20 or

21 (iv) who are siblings,

22 in facilities that provide separate living quarters  
23 for children 18 years of age and older and for  
24 children under 18 years of age.

25 (b) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to  
26 authorize the expenditure of public funds for the purpose of  
27 performing abortions.

28 (c) The Department shall establish and maintain  
29 tax-supported child welfare services and extend and seek to  
30 improve voluntary services throughout the State, to the end  
31 that services and care shall be available on an equal basis  
32 throughout the State to children requiring such services.

33 (d) The Director may authorize advance disbursements for  
34 any new program initiative to any agency contracting with the

1 Department. As a prerequisite for an advance disbursement,  
2 the contractor must post a surety bond in the amount of the  
3 advance disbursement and have a purchase of service contract  
4 approved by the Department. The Department may pay up to 2  
5 months operational expenses in advance. The amount of the  
6 advance disbursement shall be prorated over the life of the  
7 contract or the remaining months of the fiscal year,  
8 whichever is less, and the installment amount shall then be  
9 deducted from future bills. Advance disbursement  
10 authorizations for new initiatives shall not be made to any  
11 agency after that agency has operated during 2 consecutive  
12 fiscal years. The requirements of this Section concerning  
13 advance disbursements shall not apply with respect to the  
14 following: payments to local public agencies for child day  
15 care services as authorized by Section 5a of this Act; and  
16 youth service programs receiving grant funds under Section  
17 17a-4.

18 (e) (Blank).

19 (f) (Blank).

20 (g) The Department shall establish rules and regulations  
21 concerning its operation of programs designed to meet the  
22 goals of child safety and protection, family preservation,  
23 family reunification, and adoption, including but not limited  
24 to:

25 (1) adoption;

26 (2) foster care;

27 (3) family counseling;

28 (4) protective services;

29 (5) (blank);

30 (6) homemaker service;

31 (7) return of runaway children;

32 (8) (blank);

33 (9) placement under Section 5-7 of the Juvenile  
34 Court Act or Section 2-27, 3-28, 4-25 or 5-740 of the

1 Juvenile Court Act of 1987 in accordance with the federal  
2 Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980; and  
3 (10) interstate services.

4 Rules and regulations established by the Department shall  
5 include provisions for training Department staff and the  
6 staff of Department grantees, through contracts with other  
7 agencies or resources, in alcohol and drug abuse screening  
8 techniques approved by the Department of Human Services, as a  
9 successor to the Department of Alcoholism and Substance  
10 Abuse, for the purpose of identifying children and adults who  
11 should be referred to an alcohol and drug abuse treatment  
12 program for professional evaluation.

13 (h) If the Department finds that there is no appropriate  
14 program or facility within or available to the Department for  
15 a ward and that no licensed private facility has an adequate  
16 and appropriate program or none agrees to accept the ward,  
17 the Department shall create an appropriate individualized,  
18 program-oriented plan for such ward. The plan may be  
19 developed within the Department or through purchase of  
20 services by the Department to the extent that it is within  
21 its statutory authority to do.

22 (i) Service programs shall be available throughout the  
23 State and shall include but not be limited to the following  
24 services:

- 25 (1) case management;
- 26 (2) homemakers;
- 27 (3) counseling;
- 28 (4) parent education;
- 29 (5) day care; and
- 30 (6) emergency assistance and advocacy.

31 In addition, the following services may be made available  
32 to assess and meet the needs of children and families:

- 33 (1) comprehensive family-based services;
- 34 (2) assessments;

1 (3) respite care; and

2 (4) in-home health services.

3 The Department shall provide transportation for any of  
4 the services it makes available to children or families or  
5 for which it refers children or families.

6 (j) The Department may provide categories of financial  
7 assistance and education assistance grants, and shall  
8 establish rules and regulations concerning the assistance and  
9 grants, to persons who adopt physically or mentally  
10 handicapped, older and other hard-to-place children who (i)  
11 immediately prior to their adoption were legal wards of the  
12 Department or (ii) were determined eligible for financial  
13 assistance with respect to a prior adoption and who become  
14 available for adoption because the prior adoption has been  
15 dissolved and the parental rights of the adoptive parents  
16 have been terminated or because the child's adoptive parents  
17 have died. The Department may also provide categories of  
18 financial assistance and education assistance grants, and  
19 shall establish rules and regulations for the assistance and  
20 grants, to persons appointed guardian of the person under  
21 Section 5-7 of the Juvenile Court Act or Section 2-27, 3-28,  
22 4-25 or 5-740 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 for children  
23 who were wards of the Department for 12 months immediately  
24 prior to the appointment of the guardian.

25 The amount of assistance may vary, depending upon the  
26 needs of the child and the adoptive parents, as set forth in  
27 the annual assistance agreement. Special purpose grants are  
28 allowed where the child requires special service but such  
29 costs may not exceed the amounts which similar services would  
30 cost the Department if it were to provide or secure them as  
31 guardian of the child.

32 Any financial assistance provided under this subsection  
33 is inalienable by assignment, sale, execution, attachment,  
34 garnishment, or any other remedy for recovery or collection

1 of a judgment or debt.

2 (j-5) The Department shall not deny or delay the  
3 placement of a child for adoption if an approved family is  
4 available either outside of the Department region handling  
5 the case, or outside of the State of Illinois.

6 (k) The Department shall accept for care and training  
7 any child who has been adjudicated neglected or abused, or  
8 dependent committed to it pursuant to the Juvenile Court Act  
9 or the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

10 (l) Before July 1, 2000, the Department may provide, and  
11 beginning July 1, 2000, the Department shall offer family  
12 preservation services, as defined in Section 8.2 of the  
13 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, to help families,  
14 including adoptive and extended families. Family preservation  
15 services shall be offered (i) to prevent the placement of  
16 children in substitute care when the children can be cared  
17 for at home or in the custody of the person responsible for  
18 the children's welfare, (ii) to reunite children with their  
19 families, or (iii) to maintain an adoptive placement. Family  
20 preservation services shall only be offered when doing so  
21 will not endanger the children's health or safety. With  
22 respect to children who are in substitute care pursuant to  
23 the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, family preservation services  
24 shall not be offered if a goal other than those of  
25 subdivisions (A), (B), or (B-1) of subsection (2) of Section  
26 2-28 of that Act has been set. Nothing in this paragraph  
27 shall be construed to create a private right of action or  
28 claim on the part of any individual or child welfare agency.

29 The Department shall notify the child and his family of  
30 the Department's responsibility to offer and provide family  
31 preservation services as identified in the service plan. The  
32 child and his family shall be eligible for services as soon  
33 as the report is determined to be "indicated". The  
34 Department may offer services to any child or family with

1 respect to whom a report of suspected child abuse or neglect  
2 has been filed, prior to concluding its investigation under  
3 Section 7.12 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.  
4 However, the child's or family's willingness to accept  
5 services shall not be considered in the investigation. The  
6 Department may also provide services to any child or family  
7 who is the subject of any report of suspected child abuse or  
8 neglect or may refer such child or family to services  
9 available from other agencies in the community, even if the  
10 report is determined to be unfounded, if the conditions in  
11 the child's or family's home are reasonably likely to subject  
12 the child or family to future reports of suspected child  
13 abuse or neglect. Acceptance of such services shall be  
14 voluntary.

15 The Department may, at its discretion except for those  
16 children also adjudicated neglected or dependent, accept for  
17 care and training any child who has been adjudicated  
18 addicted, as a truant minor in need of supervision or as a  
19 minor requiring authoritative intervention, under the  
20 Juvenile Court Act or the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, but no  
21 such child shall be committed to the Department by any court  
22 without the approval of the Department. A minor charged with  
23 a criminal offense under the Criminal Code of 1961 or  
24 adjudicated delinquent shall not be placed in the custody of  
25 or committed to the Department by any court, except a minor  
26 less than 13 years of age committed to the Department under  
27 Section 5-710 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

28 (1-1) The legislature recognizes that the best interests  
29 of the child require that the child be placed in the most  
30 permanent living arrangement as soon as is practically  
31 possible. To achieve this goal, the legislature directs the  
32 Department of Children and Family Services to conduct  
33 concurrent planning so that permanency may occur at the  
34 earliest opportunity. Permanent living arrangements may

1 include prevention of placement of a child outside the home  
2 of the family when the child can be cared for at home without  
3 endangering the child's health or safety; reunification with  
4 the family, when safe and appropriate, if temporary placement  
5 is necessary; or movement of the child toward the most  
6 permanent living arrangement and permanent legal status.

7 When determining reasonable efforts to be made with  
8 respect to a child, as described in this subsection, and in  
9 making such reasonable efforts, the child's health and safety  
10 shall be the paramount concern.

11 When a child is placed in foster care, the Department  
12 shall ensure and document that reasonable efforts were made  
13 to prevent or eliminate the need to remove the child from the  
14 child's home. The Department must make reasonable efforts to  
15 reunify the family when temporary placement of the child  
16 occurs unless otherwise required, pursuant to the Juvenile  
17 Court Act of 1987. At any time after the dispositional  
18 hearing where the Department believes that further  
19 reunification services would be ineffective, it may request a  
20 finding from the court that reasonable efforts are no longer  
21 appropriate. The Department is not required to provide  
22 further reunification services after such a finding.

23 A decision to place a child in substitute care shall be  
24 made with considerations of the child's health, safety, and  
25 best interests. At the time of placement, consideration  
26 should also be given so that if reunification fails or is  
27 delayed, the placement made is the best available placement  
28 to provide permanency for the child.

29 The Department shall adopt rules addressing concurrent  
30 planning for reunification and permanency. The Department  
31 shall consider the following factors when determining  
32 appropriateness of concurrent planning:

- 33 (1) the likelihood of prompt reunification;
- 34 (2) the past history of the family;

1           (3) the barriers to reunification being addressed  
2 by the family;

3           (4) the level of cooperation of the family;

4           (5) the foster parents' willingness to work with  
5 the family to reunite;

6           (6) the willingness and ability of the foster  
7 family to provide an adoptive home or long-term  
8 placement;

9           (7) the age of the child;

10          (8) placement of siblings.

11          (m) The Department may assume temporary custody of any  
12 child if:

13           (1) it has received a written consent to such  
14 temporary custody signed by the parents of the child or  
15 by the parent having custody of the child if the parents  
16 are not living together or by the guardian or custodian  
17 of the child if the child is not in the custody of either  
18 parent, or

19           (2) the child is found in the State and neither a  
20 parent, guardian nor custodian of the child can be  
21 located.

22 If the child is found in his or her residence without a  
23 parent, guardian, custodian or responsible caretaker, the  
24 Department may, instead of removing the child and assuming  
25 temporary custody, place an authorized representative of the  
26 Department in that residence until such time as a parent,  
27 guardian or custodian enters the home and expresses a  
28 willingness and apparent ability to ensure the child's health  
29 and safety and resume permanent charge of the child, or until  
30 a relative enters the home and is willing and able to ensure  
31 the child's health and safety and assume charge of the child  
32 until a parent, guardian or custodian enters the home and  
33 expresses such willingness and ability to ensure the child's  
34 safety and resume permanent charge. After a caretaker has

1 remained in the home for a period not to exceed 12 hours, the  
2 Department must follow those procedures outlined in Section  
3 2-9, 3-11, 4-8, or 5-415 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

4 The Department shall have the authority, responsibilities  
5 and duties that a legal custodian of the child would have  
6 pursuant to subsection (9) of Section 1-3 of the Juvenile  
7 Court Act of 1987. Whenever a child is taken into temporary  
8 custody pursuant to an investigation under the Abused and  
9 Neglected Child Reporting Act, or pursuant to a referral and  
10 acceptance under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 of a minor in  
11 limited custody, the Department, during the period of  
12 temporary custody and before the child is brought before a  
13 judicial officer as required by Section 2-9, 3-11, 4-8, or  
14 5-415 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, shall have the  
15 authority, responsibilities and duties that a legal custodian  
16 of the child would have under subsection (9) of Section 1-3  
17 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

18 The Department shall ensure that any child taken into  
19 custody is scheduled for an appointment for a medical  
20 examination.

21 A parent, guardian or custodian of a child in the  
22 temporary custody of the Department who would have custody of  
23 the child if he were not in the temporary custody of the  
24 Department may deliver to the Department a signed request  
25 that the Department surrender the temporary custody of the  
26 child. The Department may retain temporary custody of the  
27 child for 10 days after the receipt of the request, during  
28 which period the Department may cause to be filed a petition  
29 pursuant to the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. If a petition is  
30 so filed, the Department shall retain temporary custody of  
31 the child until the court orders otherwise. If a petition is  
32 not filed within the 10 day period, the child shall be  
33 surrendered to the custody of the requesting parent, guardian  
34 or custodian not later than the expiration of the 10 day

1 period, at which time the authority and duties of the  
2 Department with respect to the temporary custody of the child  
3 shall terminate.

4 (m-1) The Department may place children under 18 years  
5 of age in a secure child care facility licensed by the  
6 Department that cares for children who are in need of secure  
7 living arrangements for their health, safety, and well-being  
8 after a determination is made by the facility director and  
9 the Director or the Director's designate prior to admission  
10 to the facility subject to Section 2-27.1 of the Juvenile  
11 Court Act of 1987. This subsection (m-1) does not apply to a  
12 child who is subject to placement in a correctional facility  
13 operated pursuant to Section 3-15-2 of the Unified Code of  
14 Corrections, unless the child is a ward who was placed under  
15 the care of the Department before being subject to placement  
16 in a correctional facility and a court of competent  
17 jurisdiction has ordered placement of the child in a secure  
18 care facility.

19 (n) The Department may place children under 18 years of  
20 age in licensed child care facilities when in the opinion of  
21 the Department, appropriate services aimed at family  
22 preservation have been unsuccessful and cannot ensure the  
23 child's health and safety or are unavailable and such  
24 placement would be for their best interest. Payment for  
25 board, clothing, care, training and supervision of any child  
26 placed in a licensed child care facility may be made by the  
27 Department, by the parents or guardians of the estates of  
28 those children, or by both the Department and the parents or  
29 guardians, except that no payments shall be made by the  
30 Department for any child placed in a licensed child care  
31 facility for board, clothing, care, training and supervision  
32 of such a child that exceed the average per capita cost of  
33 maintaining and of caring for a child in institutions for  
34 dependent or neglected children operated by the Department.

1     However, such restriction on payments does not apply in cases  
2     where children require specialized care and treatment for  
3     problems of severe emotional disturbance, physical  
4     disability, social adjustment, or any combination thereof and  
5     suitable facilities for the placement of such children are  
6     not available at payment rates within the limitations set  
7     forth in this Section. All reimbursements for services  
8     delivered shall be absolutely inalienable by assignment,  
9     sale, attachment, garnishment or otherwise.

10     (o) The Department shall establish an administrative  
11     review and appeal process for children and families who  
12     request or receive child welfare services from the  
13     Department. Children who are wards of the Department and are  
14     placed by private child welfare agencies, and foster families  
15     with whom those children are placed, shall be afforded the  
16     same procedural and appeal rights as children and families in  
17     the case of placement by the Department, including the right  
18     to an initial review of a private agency decision by that  
19     agency. The Department shall insure that any private child  
20     welfare agency, which accepts wards of the Department for  
21     placement, affords those rights to children and foster  
22     families. The Department shall accept for administrative  
23     review and an appeal hearing a complaint made by (i) a child  
24     or foster family concerning a decision following an initial  
25     review by a private child welfare agency or (ii) a  
26     prospective adoptive parent who alleges a violation of  
27     subsection (j-5) of this Section. An appeal of a decision  
28     concerning a change in the placement of a child shall be  
29     conducted in an expedited manner. The Department may arrange  
30     for or provide services through grants or contracts with  
31     private nonprofit agencies. The Department shall not make  
32     payments to any agency if the agency both (i) provides or  
33     arranges the support, assistance, or preservation of intact,  
34     at-risk families or the reunification of families in cases in

1 which a child has been placed outside of the home in  
2 substitute care; and (ii) arranges, provides, or supervises  
3 the placement of children in substitute care outside the  
4 family home. The Department may contract only with agencies  
5 that either (i) provide or arrange the support, assistance,  
6 or preservation of intact, at-risk families or the  
7 reunification of families in cases in which a child has been  
8 placed outside of the home in substitute care; or (ii)  
9 arrange, provide, or supervise the placement of children in  
10 substitute care outside the family home, but may not contract  
11 with agencies that do both.

12 (p) There is hereby created the Department of Children  
13 and Family Services Emergency Assistance Fund from which the  
14 Department may provide special financial assistance to  
15 families which are in economic crisis when such assistance is  
16 not available through other public or private sources and the  
17 assistance is deemed necessary to prevent dissolution of the  
18 family unit or to reunite families which have been separated  
19 due to child abuse and neglect. The Department shall  
20 establish administrative rules specifying the criteria for  
21 determining eligibility for and the amount and nature of  
22 assistance to be provided. The Department may also enter  
23 into written agreements with private and public social  
24 service agencies to provide emergency financial services to  
25 families referred by the Department. Special financial  
26 assistance payments shall be available to a family no more  
27 than once during each fiscal year and the total payments to a  
28 family may not exceed \$500 during a fiscal year.

29 (q) The Department may receive and use, in their  
30 entirety, for the benefit of children any gift, donation or  
31 bequest of money or other property which is received on  
32 behalf of such children, or any financial benefits to which  
33 such children are or may become entitled while under the  
34 jurisdiction or care of the Department.

1           The Department shall set up and administer no-cost,  
2 interest-bearing accounts in appropriate financial  
3 institutions for children for whom the Department is legally  
4 responsible and who have been determined eligible for  
5 Veterans' Benefits, Social Security benefits, assistance  
6 allotments from the armed forces, court ordered payments,  
7 parental voluntary payments, Supplemental Security Income,  
8 Railroad Retirement payments, Black Lung benefits, or other  
9 miscellaneous payments. Interest earned by each account  
10 shall be credited to the account, unless disbursed in  
11 accordance with this subsection.

12           In disbursing funds from children's accounts, the  
13 Department shall:

14           (1) Establish standards in accordance with State  
15 and federal laws for disbursing money from children's  
16 accounts. In all circumstances, the Department's  
17 "Guardianship Administrator" or his or her designee must  
18 approve disbursements from children's accounts. The  
19 Department shall be responsible for keeping complete  
20 records of all disbursements for each account for any  
21 purpose.

22           (2) Calculate on a monthly basis the amounts paid  
23 from State funds for the child's board and care, medical  
24 care not covered under Medicaid, and social services; and  
25 utilize funds from the child's account, as covered by  
26 regulation, to reimburse those costs. Monthly,  
27 disbursements from all children's accounts, up to 1/12 of  
28 \$13,000,000, shall be deposited by the Department into  
29 the General Revenue Fund and the balance over 1/12 of  
30 \$13,000,000 into the DCFS Children's Services Fund.

31           (3) Maintain any balance remaining after  
32 reimbursing for the child's costs of care, as specified  
33 in item (2). The balance shall accumulate in accordance  
34 with relevant State and federal laws and shall be

1 disbursed to the child or his or her guardian, or to the  
2 issuing agency.

3 (r) The Department shall promulgate regulations  
4 encouraging all adoption agencies to voluntarily forward to  
5 the Department or its agent names and addresses of all  
6 persons who have applied for and have been approved for  
7 adoption of a hard-to-place or handicapped child and the  
8 names of such children who have not been placed for adoption.  
9 A list of such names and addresses shall be maintained by the  
10 Department or its agent, and coded lists which maintain the  
11 confidentiality of the person seeking to adopt the child and  
12 of the child shall be made available, without charge, to  
13 every adoption agency in the State to assist the agencies in  
14 placing such children for adoption. The Department may  
15 delegate to an agent its duty to maintain and make available  
16 such lists. The Department shall ensure that such agent  
17 maintains the confidentiality of the person seeking to adopt  
18 the child and of the child.

19 (s) The Department of Children and Family Services may  
20 establish and implement a program to reimburse Department and  
21 private child welfare agency foster parents licensed by the  
22 Department of Children and Family Services for damages  
23 sustained by the foster parents as a result of the malicious  
24 or negligent acts of foster children, as well as providing  
25 third party coverage for such foster parents with regard to  
26 actions of foster children to other individuals. Such  
27 coverage will be secondary to the foster parent liability  
28 insurance policy, if applicable. The program shall be funded  
29 through appropriations from the General Revenue Fund,  
30 specifically designated for such purposes.

31 (t) The Department shall perform home studies and  
32 investigations and shall exercise supervision over visitation  
33 as ordered by a court pursuant to the Illinois Marriage and  
34 Dissolution of Marriage Act or the Adoption Act only if:

1           (1) an order entered by an Illinois court  
2 specifically directs the Department to perform such  
3 services; and

4           (2) the court has ordered one or both of the  
5 parties to the proceeding to reimburse the Department for  
6 its reasonable costs for providing such services in  
7 accordance with Department rules, or has determined that  
8 neither party is financially able to pay.

9           The Department shall provide written notification to the  
10 court of the specific arrangements for supervised visitation  
11 and projected monthly costs within 60 days of the court  
12 order. The Department shall send to the court information  
13 related to the costs incurred except in cases where the court  
14 has determined the parties are financially unable to pay. The  
15 court may order additional periodic reports as appropriate.

16           (u) Whenever the Department places a child in a licensed  
17 foster home, group home, child care institution, or in a  
18 relative home, the Department shall provide to the caretaker:

19           (1) available detailed information concerning the  
20 child's educational and health history, copies of  
21 immunization records (including insurance and medical  
22 card information), a history of the child's previous  
23 placements, if any, and reasons for placement changes  
24 excluding any information that identifies or reveals the  
25 location of any previous caretaker;

26           (2) a copy of the child's portion of the client  
27 service plan, including any visitation arrangement, and  
28 all amendments or revisions to it as related to the  
29 child; and

30           (3) information containing details of the child's  
31 individualized educational plan when the child is  
32 receiving special education services.

33           The caretaker shall be informed of any known social or  
34 behavioral information (including, but not limited to,

1 criminal background, fire setting, perpetuation of sexual  
2 abuse, destructive behavior, and substance abuse) necessary  
3 to care for and safeguard the child.

4 (u-5) Effective July 1, 1995, only foster care  
5 placements licensed as foster family homes pursuant to the  
6 Child Care Act of 1969 shall be eligible to receive foster  
7 care payments from the Department. Relative caregivers who,  
8 as of July 1, 1995, were approved pursuant to approved  
9 relative placement rules previously promulgated by the  
10 Department at 89 Ill. Adm. Code 335 and had submitted an  
11 application for licensure as a foster family home may  
12 continue to receive foster care payments only until the  
13 Department determines that they may be licensed as a foster  
14 family home or that their application for licensure is denied  
15 or until September 30, 1995, whichever occurs first.

16 (v) The Department shall access criminal history record  
17 information as defined in the Illinois Uniform Conviction  
18 Information Act and information maintained in the  
19 adjudicatory and dispositional record system as defined in  
20 Section 2605-355 of the Department of State Police Law (20  
21 ILCS 2605/2605-355) if the Department determines the  
22 information is necessary to perform its duties under the  
23 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, the Child Care Act  
24 of 1969, and the Children and Family Services Act. The  
25 Department shall provide for interactive computerized  
26 communication and processing equipment that permits direct  
27 on-line communication with the Department of State Police's  
28 central criminal history data repository. The Department  
29 shall comply with all certification requirements and provide  
30 certified operators who have been trained by personnel from  
31 the Department of State Police. In addition, one Office of  
32 the Inspector General investigator shall have training in the  
33 use of the criminal history information access system and  
34 have access to the terminal. The Department of Children and

1 Family Services and its employees shall abide by rules and  
2 regulations established by the Department of State Police  
3 relating to the access and dissemination of this information.

4 (w) Within 120 days of August 20, 1995 (the effective  
5 date of Public Act 89-392), the Department shall prepare and  
6 submit to the Governor and the General Assembly, a written  
7 plan for the development of in-state licensed secure child  
8 care facilities that care for children who are in need of  
9 secure living arrangements for their health, safety, and  
10 well-being. For purposes of this subsection, secure care  
11 facility shall mean a facility that is designed and operated  
12 to ensure that all entrances and exits from the facility, a  
13 building or a distinct part of the building, are under the  
14 exclusive control of the staff of the facility, whether or  
15 not the child has the freedom of movement within the  
16 perimeter of the facility, building, or distinct part of the  
17 building. The plan shall include descriptions of the types  
18 of facilities that are needed in Illinois; the cost of  
19 developing these secure care facilities; the estimated number  
20 of placements; the potential cost savings resulting from the  
21 movement of children currently out-of-state who are projected  
22 to be returned to Illinois; the necessary geographic  
23 distribution of these facilities in Illinois; and a proposed  
24 timetable for development of such facilities.

25 (Source: P.A. 91-239, eff. 1-1-00; 91-357, eff. 7-29-99;  
26 91-812, eff. 6-13-00; 92-154, eff. 1-1-02.)